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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 08098.0010
Customer Number: 22,852

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

RECEIVED

Inventors: Dennis MENDIOLA et al.

OCT 11 2001

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit:

09/846,376

Group 2200

Filed: May 2, 2001

Examiner:

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TRACKING THE ONLINE STATUS OF
ACTIVE USERS OF AN INTERNET-BASED INSTANT MESSAGING SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title, insert the following new paragraph:

This application claims the priority of International Application No.

PCT/SG00/00069, filed May 11, 2000 and the benefit of U.S. provisional application
number 60/203,583, filed May 11, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend now pending claims 3-5 with the following complete set of claims:

3. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said prescribed
involvement with said IM server includes: